DOCKET NO.: 205210US0



#8 12-3-02 1200

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Nahoto HAYASHI, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 1772

SERIAL NO.: 09/817,029

FILED: March 27, 2001 : EXAMINER: SIMONE

FOR: FUEL CONTAINER HAVING EXCELLENT

GASOLINE BARRIER PROPERTIES

RECEIVED
DEC -3 2002
TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated August 29, 2002, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-15, for further prosecution.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

Group I:

Claims 1-15, drawn to a fuel container; and

Group II:

Claims 16-17, drawn to method for producing a fuel container.

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-15.

In regard to Groups II and I, the Office has characterized the relationship between these two groups as process of making and product made. Citing MPEP §806.05(f), the Office suggests the claimed products "can be made by a materially different process without the steps of the Group II process i.e. heat-sealing the open-end edges of the two sections to complete a fuel container and coating the inner surface of each section except the area of open-end edge thereof with a layer of barrier materials etc." However, there is no evidence